ISOPODS

21. **Ligia exotica**

AMPHIPODS

22. **Gammarus** sp.

DECAPODS

23. **Dotilla myctiroides**

24. **Uca** sp.

ALGAE

25. **Entermorpha** sp.

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ARABIAN SEA ISLANDS PROJECT, PANJIM,
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25. THE GENUS *DELIAS* HUBN. FROM THE PLAINS OF ASSAM

I was interested to read Messrs Varshney & Nandi's note [*69*(3): 667-668] regarding the absence of the genus *Delias* from the plains of In-

dia. In Assam the genus is quite definitely not confined to the hills. In the plains of Sibsagar Dt. *Delias aglaia* (L.) and *descombesi leucantha* (Fruh) were two of our very common butterflies. They were succession brooded, the larvae feeding, as usual, on *Loranthus* spp. The following species were also taken in the plains from time to time:

agostina (Hew.) Occasional, Sibsagar Dt. and Margherita. Two only from Naga Hills.

hyparete hierte (Hub.) Sibsagar Dt. Not seen in Naga Hills.

thysbe pyramus (Wall). Sibsagar Dt. Not seen in Naga Hills.

As none of these was common in the neighbouring Naga Hills it would be unsafe to conclude without definite evidence of breeding habits that they were merely wanderers from the hills. The common Naga Hills spp. were *belladonna lugens* (Jord.) and *berinda berinda* (M.). These two I never saw in the plains.

THE OLD RECTORY, T. NORMAN
WINTERBORNE HOUGHTON,
BLANDFORD,
DORSET,
January 17, 1974.

26. DANAID BUTTERFLIES ATTRACTED TO *HELIOTROPIUM INDICUM* (BORAGINACEAE), AN ALKALOID CONTAINING PLANT

(*With a plate*)

While on a survey to locate Bonnet macaque troops around Tulsi lake, on 22nd May, 1974, in company with Mr. P. Kannan, Curator for Animals, Borivli National Park, Maharashtra State, I observed a number of Danaid butterflies (*Danaus limniace* and *Euploea core*) clustered on a *Heliotropium indicum* plant which was in flower. At first I assumed that the butterflies were feeding on the flowers, but closer inspection revealed that all of them were clinging to, and feeding on, a dead and decaying inflorescence drooping from the plant.

On a subsequent occasion, on 4th September, 1974, I noticed 5 *Danaus limniace* hovering around, and intermittently settling upon, some newly flowering branches of a *Heliotropium indicum* growing on the bank of the pond near the offices of the Borivli National Park. I decided to find out whether they could be attracted away from this site to another *H. indicum* plant growing about 8 feet away. I crushed an inflorescence bearing few flowers of this latter plant, sufficient to extract the plant juice without distorting its rigidity, and waited. In a few minutes all the 5 specimens of *D. limniace* transferred their attention